

Skull : greatest length 15.2 ; breadth of brain-case 8.2.

*Hab.* Port Darwin, North Australia. Type from Casuarina Bay ; sea-level.

*Type.* Adult male. B.M. no. 22.10.8.1. Original number 5. Collected 9th July, 1922, and presented by Mrs. Oriana F. Wilson. Three specimens.

The remarkably pale brown colour of this *Miniopterus* distinguishes it from any other member of the genus, for other pale species are of quite a different and more greyish kind of pallor.

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LXVII.—*New Species of Neuroptera in the British Museum.*

By P. ESBEN-PETERSEN, Silkeborg, Denmark.

By the kindness of Mr. Herbert Champion I have had the pleasure of looking over some Neuroptera belonging to the British Museum. Amongst the material three new and undescribed species were found—viz., *Disparomitus rufocostatus* (Ascalaphidæ), *Palpares pulchellus*, and *Palpares auratus* (Myrmeleonidæ).

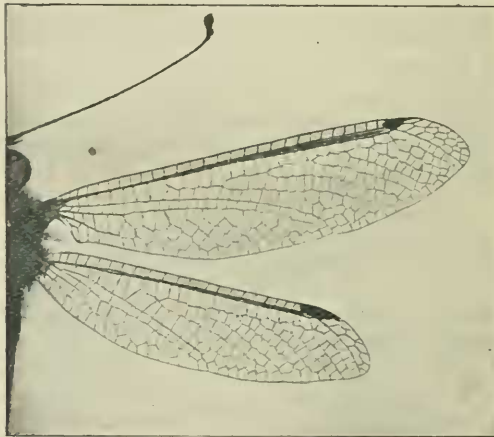
*Disparomitus rufocostatus*, sp. n.

Clypeus, labrum, and palpi reddish brown ; face blackish shining. Vertex and face with very long blackish and greyish hairs. Antennæ two-thirds the length of anterior wing, sanguineous, yellowish annulated ; club broad, blackish, somewhat paler internally. Thorax pale chocolate-brown, with black streaks and spots ; dorsum of mesothorax with a figure somewhat like that on the death's-head moth ; hairs rather long, black. Underside of thorax pale chocolate-brown, with black and grey hairs. Legs rather short and stout, reddish brown, with long black and grey hairs ; knees and tarsi black ; tarsi a little longer than tibiæ ; spurs hardly as long as first tarsal joint. Abdomen very long, much longer than fore wing, rather slender, blackish ; first and second segments partly brown ; basal part of abdomen with a few long and black hairs, the rest of abdomen with shorter black hairs. Dorsum of first abdominal segment with a saddle-shaped elevation. Appendages of male very short, their tip laterally directed. Wings equally broad in their apical two-third parts ; tip obtusely rounded ; posterior angle of the fore wings rather prominent. Cross-veins of wings black ; longitudinal veins with the exception of *Rs* and all the branches from *Rs* and *Cu*<sub>1</sub> reddish. *R* blackish from pterostigma to tip of wing. Pterostigma yellowish brown, conspicuous, twice as long in hind wing as in fore wing ; in

anterior wing it encloses three cells, in posterior wing four or five cells. Membrane of wings hyaline; in subcostal area reddish (almost sanguineous). The base of wings blackish, with a yellowish spot at the base of the fore wing. In the apical area of fore wing three rows of cells, in that of hind wing two rows. *Rs* emits six branches in both pairs of wings. In fore wing six or seven cross-veins before origin of *Rs*, in hind wing five or six. In the central part of the area between  $M_{2a}$  and posterior margin of hind wing three rows of cells.

Length of fore wing 31 mm.; hind wing 25 mm.; and abdomen of male 38 mm.

Fig. 1.



*Disparomitus rufocostatus*, sp. n., ♂, type.

1 ♂, Murungu Plateau, 6000 ft., Belgian Congo, at light (T. A. Barns leg.).

I have without hesitation placed this species in the genus *Disparomitus*, Weele ('Collections Zoologiques,' Selys, Ascalaphiden, p. 191, 1908), although the saddle-shaped elevation on the dorsum of the first abdominal segment is hardly so conspicuous as in the other species included in the genus.

*Palpares pulchellus*, sp. n.

Head jet-black; labrum and front part of clypeus yellowish (in the female specimen the labrum is blackish brown with yellowish margins). On the clypeus a transverse row of blackish bristles. Palpi blackish with yellowish articulations. Antennæ black. Vertex somewhat raised and with a median longitudinal furrow. Prothorax dark brown, with narrow

yellowish front margin; three transverse rows of blackish hairs. Mesothorax dark brown, with an ill-defined yellowish spot on dorsum; front part blackish-haired, hind part whitish-haired. Metathorax with two yellowish spots on dorsum; whitish-haired. Underside of thorax blackish; whitish-haired. Legs blackish. Abdomen brownish yellow above; blackish below. First and second abdominal segments mostly blackish above; tip of abdomen blackish above; in the male the apical segment is yellowish-margined posteriorly. Anal appendages of male as long as eighth segment,

Fig. 2.



*Palparex pulchellus*, sp. n. (from Bavarian Krantz: Oxford University Museum).

pale, blackish-haired, curved, and their tips convergent. Wings long and slender; rather acute at their tip. The ground-colour of fore wing sooty brown; at base orange-coloured. The whole wing sprinkled over with numerous hyaline spots, most of which are filled up with an orange-coloured central part, circumscribed by a hyaline circle. Venation of fore wing brown; whitish in the pale-coloured parts; most of the cross-veins in the apical quarter whitish. Ground-colour of hind wing lacteous; hyaline towards base. Markings sooty brown.

Length of fore wing 47–52 mm. ; hind wing 44–48 mm.  
length of body, ♂ 55, ♀ 47 mm.

1 ♂, 1 ♀, Deelfontein, South Africa (*Col. Sloggett*, 1903–109).

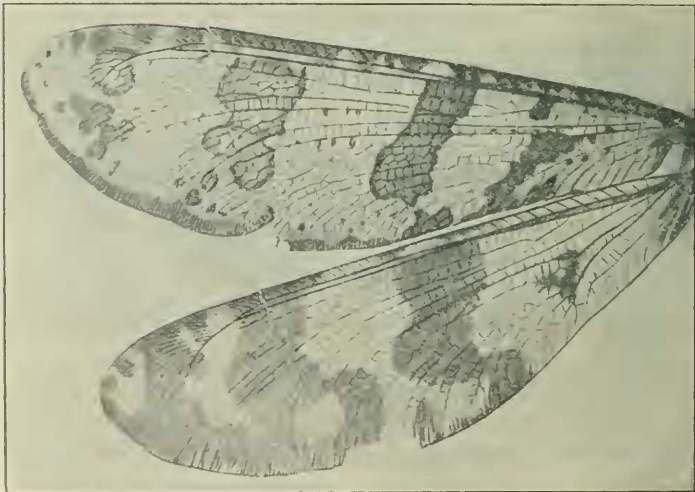
Besides these two specimens, I have seen another specimen (head and abdomen lost) from Orange River Colony, 20 m. above Orange River Station, Baviaan Krantz, 20th Jan., 1905 (at light) (*F. B. Parkinson* leg.). This specimen was forwarded to me for determination by Dr. Guy A. K. Marshall, Director of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology.

*P. pulchellus* has much resemblance to *P. dubiosus*, Péring. (*P. formosus*, Bks.), from which it may be separated by its peculiar and irroated fore wings and by its larger size. Hind wing of *P. dubiosus* with a large circular spot over fork of  $M_2$ ; in *pulchellus* is found an irregular spot.

*Palpares auratus*, sp. n.

Labrum and clypeus yellowish; each of them with a transversely-placed row of dark bristles. Palpi pale brownish

Fig 3.



*Palpares auratus*, sp. n., ♀, type.

yellow. Insertions of antennæ yellowish. Antennæ lost, with exception of basal joint, which is pale brown. Face and anterior part of vertex brownish; between the insertions of antennæ a longitudinal dark streak. Vertex somewhat raised; in front with a short median longitudinal furrow; on top with a dark spot at each side, and posteriorly with a dark

spot close to each eye. Prothorax brown, with an orange-coloured lateral streak, and with an ill-defined, yellowish, longitudinal, median streak. Meso- and metathorax orange-coloured, brownish at base of wings. Venter of thorax orange-coloured. Thorax with long, orange-coloured pilosity, dorsally and ventrally. Legs brown, with short whitish hairs and long blackish bristles. Abdomen orange-coloured; towards apex with brown markings. Base of abdomen whitish-haired; towards apex short blackish hairs. Wings rather broad, with obtusely rounded apex. Markings pale sooty brown. Membrane of fore wings strongly orange-coloured; that of hind wing hyaline, with the exception of the pterostigma and the apical spot, which are orange-coloured. The four cross-bands in fore wing somewhat tessellated. Venation yellowish; in the markings brownish red.

Fore wing 60 mm.; hind wing 57 mm.; body 46 mm.

1 ♀, Kotakota, Nyasaland, 1911-447 (*Dr. J. E. S. Old leg.*).

Only the present specimen is known of this peculiar species, which is unlike what I have seen of other species, both with regard to form and to arrangement of markings, and also to the intensive orange-coloured membrane of the fore wing. I can hardly imagine that this colour is due to any chemical effect of the killing-bottle.

The specimen is in a rather bad condition; it has lost its right fore wing and its antennæ.

*Note.*—Mr. Herbert Champion has pointed out to me that the generic name *Colobopterus*, Rambur (*Hist. Nat. Ins., Névropt.* p. 360), is preoccupied by *Colobopterus*, Mulsant (*Hist. Nat. Coléopt. France, Lamellicornes*, p. 165). Rambur's work was published in the week ending 31st December, 1842, that of Mulsant about 6th August, 1842. Consequently Rambur's name (used in the Ascalaphidæ) has to be changed, and I propose the name *Ameropterus* for it.

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LXVIII.—*On some Land Mites (Acari) from Spitsbergen and Bear Island. Results of the Oxford University Expedition to Spitsbergen, 1921.*—No. 23. By Rev. J. E. HULL, M.A.

THE mites collected represent three families:—Thrombidiidæ, 6 species; Gamasidæ, 1 species; and Oribatidæ, 5 species. All have been previously recorded as Arctic species, but four